

# VAGINA

## BREAKING NEWS

## VOTE

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**Girl Power.** Prepare for Sisterfest and International Women's Day. page 11



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Collage

## V-Day: The Vagina Monologues Comes to George Brown

By Joy Henderson

In a move that will surely make students look twice, Anita Ademolu, Life Works Support Worker and Play Producer, is planning to reconnect students with their friend, the Vagina. *The Vagina Monologues*, the play that has been getting headlines and reviews in various cities worldwide, is now coming to George Brown College.

Often thought to be dirty or something to be feared, the vagina is no more harmful than the fingernail or the big toe. After all, it is just a body part. Yet even today, graduating medical students in various

**"many societies cannot even utter the word vagina without blushing"**

parts of Canada can barely say the word aloud. Equally off-putting, women of various generations and of many societies cannot even utter the word vagina without blushing.

The play helps create awareness around a certain female body part, which goes by several thousand names other than vagina. It highlights that throughout history women have not been able to talk about their vaginas in an open and direct manner. It has been a taboo and shameful subject.

Most of the actors are students from the Assaulted Women and Children's Counselling/Advocacy (AWCCA) Program. The funds raised by the performances will be donated to the AWCCA Program and Life Works Women's Centre.

The Vagina Monologues aims to tear down the socialized shame and taboo that envelopes the female body, indeed, our very dynamic female body parts. Using honest and upbeat dialogue, the performers will discuss what their vaginas may say (you may be surprised!), their menstruation, vagina types and many other aspects that make us as women whole.

The only way to find out more is to come and see the show for yourselves. Everyone is welcome! Ademolu encourages students to bring their mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts, cousins and friends. This play promises to be an enticing night for women of all ages and hopefully will make us feel more at ease about saying the V-Word!

The first show played on February 22nd in the Casa Loma Auditorium. The next show plays as follows:

St. James Campus:  
Friday, March 8, 2002  
International Women's Day  
7:00-9:00 PM  
Lecture Hall

### The tickets cost:

Adults \$10  
Students \$5  
(Suggested donation)

For more information you can contact Anita Ademolu at 416-415-2900, extension: 89003. We look forward to seeing you there!

EVE ENSLER



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By Karen Guzman-McBride

There is some controversy over designating exclusive space for queer women. Questions arise as to how this space is being used to exclude and segregate women based on their sexual orientation. However, it is not our diverse identities as women that separate us, but the way in which our identities are ranked in a hierarchical society.

It is interesting to think that anyone in the 21st century believes it is now possible for homosexual people to integrate themselves successfully into mainstream culture. Our basic civil rights are still withheld and society as a whole excludes us from nearly every institution, not created by us, worldwide.

In *Homophobia a weapon of sexism*, Suzanne Pharr states that "one of the major differences between homophobia/heterosexism and racism and sexism is that because of the Civil Rights Movement and the women's movement, racism and sexism are expressed more covertly (though with great harm); because there has not been a major, visible lesbian and gay movement, it is permissible to be overtly homophobic in any institution and public forum" (p.22, 1988).

So, why are queer women at all concerned about being inclusive in a heteropatriarchal society? The reason is because women who love women know about exclusion first hand and therefore, are sensitive to its effects on individuals. Inclusiveness will be achieved after heterosexual/homophobia is eliminated from society. In the mean time, any group that experiences systemic oppression has a right to claim space and has a right to protect that space when it is being threatened under the guise of inclusiveness.

It is desperately important to support lesbian/trans/gay rights by challenging heterosexual/homophobia. With this in mind, it is contentious to expect LGBT identified people to be educators by answering intricate questions and arguing why we should have basic human rights. Queer people are expected to accommodate themselves to heterosexual education, religious teachings, workplace policies, and government laws without any form of resistance. This is why some people with heterosexual privilege feel entitled to take up the

little bit of space queer people create to deal with living in a culture set up for us not to exist.

Coming out is actually a continuous process that requires a lot of strength and patience. Thus, it is essential to have a lesbian centered space where women can share resources and support each other in our diverse histories and unique struggles. Lesbian space also gives women a chance to explore their personal identities in ways that expand beyond sexuality. For instance, women who have relationships with women also have relationships with families, friends, co-workers, classmates, employers, teachers, and interact with the world as working, middle, and

## "eliminate homophobia by actively fighting for queer peoples right to love, work, and learn"

upper class people of all colors and political and religious affiliations.

The complexities of lesbians are wide-ranging, but the ways queer identities are missing from mainstream education is the same. Consequently, queer women must educate themselves to fill in the gaps made by exclusive heterosexual education that teaches us homosexuality is a societal problem, instead of a gift. How odd it is to talk about homosexuality as being a gift in a culture that regularly refuses to deal with homophobic violence.

A way to help eliminate homophobia is by actively fighting for queer peoples right to love, work, and learn without being harassed. Harassment can come in the form of intrusive questioning and rude comments or jokes directed

toward someone's sexual orientation. Everyone has a right to refuse to participate in awkward, humiliating, or painful discussions regarding their identity. Just as patrons visiting the zoo learn about different species of animals by watching, reading, and listening, people can learn about homosexuality in the same ways.

Some good places to check out information are The Women's Bookstore, Glad Day's Bookshop and at The Life Works centre at George Brown College. It is not that all questions and comments concerning sexual orientation are offensive, however, the intent behind what is said will determine if it is welcome.

There is a time and place for everything. Of course there are circumstances for people of all genders, races, and sexual orientations to join together to learn, support, and plan for political action. In the same way, it is appropriate for individuals to meet in groups specific to where they are culturally located for the purpose of gaining more strength and knowledge to bring to the larger group of society.

According to a board member at George Brown College, "lesbians are affected by specific issues that do not pertain to people who do not identify as homosexual. This is why it is important to have a lesbian centered group where women are less likely to be threatened by discrimination."

Becoming visible is a step toward equality. That takes a lot of courage. Forming an LGBT group is actively fighting heterosexual/homophobia because it is making us a visible priority in the community.

**A Women Loving Women group will be held at:**

Nightingale campus.  
Women's Center on a weekly basis  
starting in March from 4pm to 5pm.

Refreshments will be provided and group themes will be posted soon. For more information on group meetings you can reach me at 416-415-2900 ext. 89931

## Express Yourself Self Esteem Workshops - For Women Only



1pm to 2pm in the Women's Centre  
at  
St. James Campus

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| Mar 5th  | Self Esteem-How can we better ourselves?                |
| Mar 12th | Interpersonal Communications (speaking with confidence) |
| Mar 19th | Guest Speaker-Sexual Harassment                         |
| Mar 26th | Body Image  |
| Apr 2nd  | Celebration of Achievements                             |

For more information contact Life Works at 416-415-2846. For ASL interpreting or special needs, contact Rachel Shalit at 416-415-2620



Clarification

In the Love Issue of *Dialog* we failed to credit Scott Blakely as the writer of the sports report. On page three the Report from the Board was reprinted from a previous issue.

# Editorial Why Make Lesbian Space?

## Human Rights Advisor

**QUESTION:** I have a student in my class who makes me feel very uncomfortable. I don't want to do anything about it, but recently, this same student has been hanging out in all the same places I do and constantly trying to engage me in conversations of a personal nature. What should I do?

If you can't feel safe to do so, you should tell the student what they are doing that makes you feel uncomfortable and express that you do not wish this to continue.

If you are unsure of how to do this, or feel it will not work, you should seek some advice from the Human Rights Advisor at extension 2167, Counseling Services at extension 2107 (St. James) or 4585 (Casa Loma), Student Association extension 2455.

Trust your instincts, get advice and know you are not alone.

Dale Hall, Human Rights Advisor at extension 4646.

Write the Dialog for advice on other issues in upcoming publications.

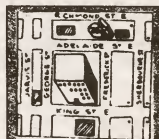


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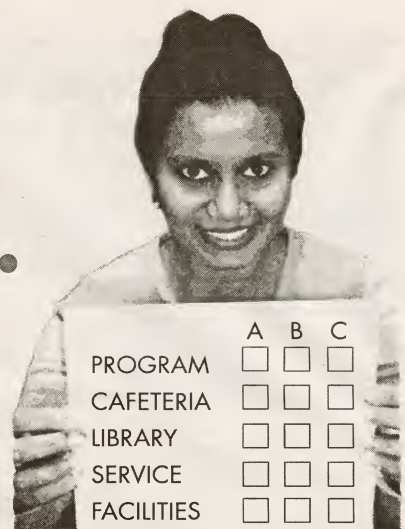


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Thanks to all George Brown students and staff who took time between Feb. 4 and 15, 2002 to do a KPI Student Satisfaction Survey in class. Student answers to the survey will help improve programs and the college. Survey results are expected to be available at all campus libraries by the end of April. For more info go to: [www.gbrownc.on.ca/kpi](http://www.gbrownc.on.ca/kpi)

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**VOTE**

**March  
14-15  
18-20**

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# dialog Election Insert

General Elections— March 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 2002



## Why we vote

By Shelley Edwards,  
Chief Returning Officer

It's that time of year again. Just when you wish everyone would leave you alone so you can concentrate on your studies, people are going around telling you that you must vote.

Vote for what? Vote for who?

As a full-time student you are a member of the Student Association of George Brown College. You are represented by students who make decisions about how your Student Association is run and what services it will offer. Each year you elect a new batch of student representatives. This year the elections are held May 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 2002.

You get to elect paid Executive members. These positions include President, Vice-President, Education and a Vice-President from each of the campuses. The President is the head individual, the main spokesperson of the organization. As such they will represent you throughout the next school year. The V-P, Education is the person responsible for education issues. If you ever need to do an academic appeal, you will need this person. The three campus V-Ps represent each full-time student at their various campuses. Each

Executive member makes decisions concerning finances, staffing, services as well as activities and events.

Also running for election are At-Large members of the Board of Directors. These are program representatives from Business, Graphics, Technology, Hospitality, nursing, Allied Health, Creative Arts, Centre for Healthy Communities and one Community Services Rep from both St. James and Nightingale.

New this year are the other paid At-Large members called Campus Directors. There will be one director from each of following: Casa Loma, Hospitality, Nightingale, Ryerson and St. James. The major job of the Campus Directors will be to assist the Campus V-Ps. Each member is expected to sit on at least one sub-committee such as Events or Educational Issues.

These students running for election deserve your support. They are willing to work towards change within the College and many volunteer their time as they work towards their goals. It takes a special person who can hold an elected position while maintaining high academic standards.

Showing your support is easy. Just look through our special Election Insert. By

reading the candidates biography and their answer to ten standardized questions you can decide which person to support.

During the campaign period, March 4 to March 13, 2002, candidates will be putting up posters, campaigning in hallways and getting their message out. This is your time to ask specific questions of your candidates.

On election days, remember to bring your student ID with you. Our Returning Officers will be setting up voting booths in main hallways on your campus. If you can't see them, go to your Student Association office to ask about their location.

Our Chief Returning Officer will receive all the votes and with help of the Polling Clerks will tally the results and post them on the door of the Student Association office at St. James campus. Results will also be printed in following issue of Dialog.

You, the students of George Brown College can make a difference! Please take the time to read the biographies and the ten reasons why each candidate is running in this year's general elections.

Now all you have to do is get out and vote.

# Candidates for Student



**Dwayne Kines**  
PRESIDENT

**Tim Johnson**  
PRESIDENT

**Janson Ng**  
PRESIDENT

**Chris MacNeil**  
VP-Education

**Elish Ward-VP**  
Nightingale/Ryerson

What motivated you to run for this position?

The interest and concern for the students motivated me to run for the position. Because of the investment students have made in their education, I believe that they should have more empowerment over the services that are offered to them, and there is much more room for improvement. And I feel that, that improvement starts with me.

I am running for the position of President, because with my experience at GBC, and the Student Association, I feel I can make great changes for students, which will better our education.

I have worked very closely with President Kevin King. His leadership has helped many students and this inspires me to do the same after he leaves. I will continue his legacy of transforming the SA and improve on his vision.

What really motivated me to run for this position was the moment I got my first OSAP cheque, when I realized students were getting the shaft, and I knew I had to do something about it.

What motivates me to run is knowing that I can make a difference on the issues that affect us and to make everyone's time at G.B.C., one that is fun and memorable.

What relevant experience do you feel qualifies you for this position?

I am highly qualified for this position, with experience from an International perspective, and my experience here at George Brown as Student Rep. on the Board of Governors, President of MOOSE (STUDENTS PROMOTING DIVERSITY AND COMBATING RACISM) and my continuous work with students in the Athletics and Student Life Department.

I am coming off a successful year as Campus VP at St. James, which taught me how to get things done, in regards to the college, and policy and procedures.

I am the First Year Rep for St. James, as well as the Commissioner-Special Projects for the SA. My professional experience includes project management, information technology, technical writing, media relations, and investment consulting.

Some of my relevant experience has been, my work on the Grey Ribbon and the Feb 6-Freeze the Fees campaigns. I work at the Life Works Centre, I'm in the Community Worker Club. I've worked with special needs clients.

Experience that I have is being first year representative from Nightingale and Commissioner At Large, for the 2001-2002 and volunteering in the community.

How do you plan to represent the needs of your fellow students?

I want to bridge or close the communication gap with the students and the Student Association. I want to also provide the students with more student activities, better access to emergency funds, more involvement in Variety Sports, and a better student run/owned organization.

Through forums, surveys, and an open door policy, I hope that I will be able to reach all students and help them fulfill their needs. Then I will represent those needs to the Student Association, and the College through Board and College Council meetings.

I have met with President Frank Sornichinsky, the College Council, and the Board of Governors several times. I will continue to do this and make sure that they listen and consider the needs of my fellow students.

I will represent the needs of my fellow students by making their concerns my concerns. I will encourage students to speak up, and not only will I listen but I will turn their words into actions.

I plan on representing the students needs by knowing and understanding the issues that are important to students and making students aware of all the services and events offered.

In what ways would you increase student involvement at Student Association events?

By providing the students with incentives to participate in events, I want to make the "why should I get involved and what has the Student Association done for me" attitude a thing of the past. All students, no matter what their culture, background or ethnicity should all be made to feel like they are one with the Association and one with the college.

Promotion through posters, the Dining, and just word of mouth will help promote the events the Student Associations holds. There will however, never be an event everyone wants to attend, but hopefully we can hold enough events that everyone will have the opportunity to find one they enjoy.

I will utilize the Ambassador Program and send them into every classroom, fix the SA website and hold events every month to boost participation and school spirit. I am still committed to clubs, SRCs, and sport teams.

I would increase student involvement at S.A. events by making sure events are relevant and interesting, so that students will be forced to come out.

Making students aware of every well advance, organizing transportation between the locations and offering events that meet the diverse population and by using resources like the Ambassador program.

What do you think George Brown's goal is in the Canadian Federation of Students?

I cannot comment on George Brown's involvement with the CFS, since we are the only college with the CFS, with hardly a strong position in the CFS organization. CFS is a lobby group for UNIVERSITIES, and yes, they may advocate for students on the Federal and Provincial level, but I fail to see how we benefit from this, because universities still regard colleges as high schools.

To help bring George Brown students issues to CFS and have them become national issues instead of something that is only dealt with here on campus. Also, to help keep students' issues at the forefront.

I will fight to increase our role in CFS and make sure that every university and college knows about us. I will make them listen to our students' needs and put them at the forefront of any discussions.

I think GBC's goal in the CFS is to have a much louder voice to advocate and fight for the rights of students.

The goal when it comes to the Canadian Federation of students is to work hand in hand with the Canadian Federation of Students, to make sure, that the needs of the students are being met, locally, provincially and federally. And to take a stand of action when they are not.

If elected, list three primary goals you wish to accomplish during your term.

a)-To implement the constitution and to return the Student Association back to the rightful owners- The students. b)-To implement the most diverse and non-racial Association, which represents not only the students of the College, but the community we live in. c)-To initiate an emergency fund and scholarships for the students to help in making their studies at the college more stress free.

First, I hope to be able to freeze or lower tuition. Second, I would like to work towards having Hospitality recognized as their own campus. Third, I want to achieve a 3.5 GPA.

1)-Hold an event EVERY MONTH.  
2)-Work with the College and with the government to reduce tuition.  
3)-Promote George Brown College to the business community and increasing the value of a GBC diploma.

If elected I want to:  
1. Have an event each month to celebrate the diversity of our students.  
2. Get students more involved in the college.  
3. I want to start a book program for students who can't afford them.

a)- Nightingale/Ryerson students playing a larger part in the college. b)- More students input. c)- Making sure the transition of moving students from Nightingale to Ryerson, runs smoothly and effectively and students are kept in the foreground when it comes to the changes.

How do you plan on achieving goals within a diverse team environment?

Presently I am the President of the largest diverse student committee (MORAC) in the College, so I believe that I have proven that I have the necessary skills and experience that would be needed in implementing my goals. "Remember, foods rush in where wise men refuse to tread"

Working with diversity will only make the team stronger. It helps you to realize what will work for certain groups, and what might not. The more representation you have, the better your results.

I would be able to immediately fulfill the duties of the President since I have already worked with most of the SA staff. I understand the people and the organization very well and we have a bond that it would take years for others to create.

My plan to achieve goals in a diverse team environment is to have a lot of patience and to respect others, while remaining committed to my goals.

I plan on achieving goals with a diverse team, by being supportive and encouraging of the diversity that exists. By understanding, that everyone including myself is coming from different places and respect that place.

How do you plan on balancing your time between the SA, school and other obligations?

I have just completed a time management workshop that is provided by Student Affairs for all students, and I will terminate my other positions if I am elected the President of S.A. and captain of the S.S. George Brown.

The Student Association will take up a big chunk of time, but I realize what I am doing is important, so that is not a problem. I will work hard at school since I am entering a new program, and my social life, will just have to take a back seat until all my other commitments are met.

With my work experience and knowledge I could easily secure a job. However, my first priority is to students and the Student Association. Everything else comes second. I have been doing this ever since I was elected.

I will balance my time between my different commitments the same way I've handled working two jobs, being a full time student, a full time father and working 16hrs a week at my placement, by prioritizing and good time management.

I plan on balancing my time by completing tasks, when they arise and not pushing things to the side, or to another time. Also by remembering that I am only one person in a team of people, who have to support one another.

What are your main areas of interest in relation to your particular campus?

My main interest in the Student Association is to make the students more informed with the operation of the Association, the Businesses of the Association, and to create an emergency fund program with bursaries readily available for the students, a program which I have already implemented for the International Student Rep.

I will be representing all campuses, but I hope to make a big push at Casa Loma, and Nightingale, because history shows that they do not always get all the attention that St. James does. However, I will be a St. James student and I will be working closely to get more activities that are fun off the ground for here as well.

Many students have complained to me about the high cost of the cash machine at St. James. I will convince the College to allow the SA to set up its own machine. We have already made changes such as a new food service provider for the cafeteria.

My main areas of interest are student's rights to an affordable accessible education free of discrimination.

Make sure, Nightingale's sometimes quiet voice is heard and that the Nightingale students, are made aware of, at all campuses and that the students are relocating have an understanding of what is going on and are supported as much as possible.

George Brown is a diverse campus-in what ways would you strive for representation of ALL students?

We are in the process of setting up 15 student representative councils, which would be an advisory committee to the President of the Student Association, and to create a Student Association free of discrimination and racism.

Everyone's voice counts. By having an open door policy that allows any student to come see me, I will hopefully be able to represent all the different diverse cultures that George Brown is made of.

As a visible minority and an immigrant myself, I know a lot about the problems many students face. I have always been available and so far I have been able to assist at least 75 students with various problems.

I hope to represent all students by doing a lot of outreach to students who may feel underrepresented. I also want to do events to educate and to appreciate the diversity of our students.

Through diversity we can be united. By pulling on all the diversity at G.B. we can be more united. The more of a diverse population we have represented, the stronger the Student Association will be.



# Student Association Elections



**Ah Maria Park-VP**  
**erson/Nightingale**

Students of Nightingale and Ryerson campus are a community to work for. I want to promote our college, and increase our college services, and encourage involvement in campus and college-wide events.

I have experience as a student representative to the management of my cooperative representative of George Brown College initiative support staff, and as a co-ordinator of the initiative. Through these experiences, I have developed leadership, planning, and communication skills.

I represent the needs of my fellow students by listening, understanding, and collecting their needs, and by developing plans and generating real solutions with the Student Association, and by restructuring of services.

Student Association events foster spirit in the community and support of George Brown College. I would increase student involvement by announcing and advertising events through weekly newsletters, and encourage student involvement in campus events to their interests.

All members of the CES, George Brown's goal in the future is to represent our student concerns and issues, and to provide a safe and secure environment. Our aim is equitable and to provide high quality post-secondary education, services and facilities.

2002-2003 term goals are to ensure that students at the new campus have equal access and representation in campus events and programs by 30%.

Students on the operation of the College and Student Association.

I believe these goals within a diverse team environment. I commit to my objectives to realize these goals with the assistance of the Student Association. We must work together with a mindset to serve the needs of the students.

I have obligations to my educational community, my friends, and my family. I know how to balance my commitments by focusing on the task on hand, plan ahead, and most importantly, having a healthy attitude.

I want to provide for Nightingale and Ryerson campus. It is to organize a Community and Health Science Student Association, which would be a part of their program, career, and education options.



**Deron Dawson**  
**VP CASA LOMA**

I was motivated to run for this position because as the First Year Representative of Casa Loma, I had a lot of ideas to make the school more enjoyable for my fellow students and was encouraged by fellow students and current VP Bruce Kilpatrick.

I am qualified for this position because as the First Year Representative, I was responsible for planning events, and activities such as the pool tournament, recreational games, and entertainment in the lounge. I am also a voting member of the Board of Directors.

I plan to represent the needs of fellow students by listening to their concerns, needs, and deal with them as quickly as possible. Also I will communicate with them personally, through suggestions, boxes, and my voice mailbox (416-415-2900 ext. 89022).

I will increase student involvement at Student Association events by organizing events to take place in a time slot that allows every student to find time to participate, and advertise. Each time a student participates he/she will be awarded points towards a grand prize at the end of the year.

I think that George Brown's goal in the Canadian Federation of students is to assist George Brown College students in being involved in lobbying the government to protect student interest.

During my term I wish to take care of student concerns about the school, increase student involvement in campus activities, and make sure students enjoy their time at George Brown College.

I plan to achieve goals within a diverse team environment by simply being myself because I get along with everyone.

I plan to balance my time with the Student Association and school obligation by completing school assignments during class and at home, and Student Association assignments at school on my spare time.

My main areas of interest in relation to our campus is to represent all student concerns, ensure students get their money's worth out of their program, and ensure all students enjoy their studies. Hopefully they will spread the word that George Brown is an exciting school.

I plan to represent all students equally, and ensure there is no discrimination. Also because George Brown is a diverse school, I plan to organize as many events as possible in order to ensure students are more sociable with each other.



**Lungile Ncube**  
**VP CASA LOMA**

Having a different perspective of things due to a different up bringing in a different part of the world I would like to contribute to the College and students of George Brown.

The major goal is to get to be involved with the college and help get other's voices heard no matter how low they are.

My vast experience in organizational skills that I have gained over the years through direct training in leadership and team working (workshop of youth leadership training, PTC College Harare, Zimbabwe) and my participation in youth (committee member of the Sixth Form Gifted high, executive committee member of International Students of Concordia College Selma, AL.)

Introduce a regular students needs assessment policy that uses different media and has clear problem solving procedure implemented. My team would be composed of, work closely with, or even use advisors for all the different groups.

Since the events are for the students and after getting results from the needs assessment, we will then introduce those events that interest most students and incorporate those of interest to a fewer number in the big picture so as to include all the voices of George Brown Casa Loma.

The Canadian Federation of Students is the voice of Students Association of different colleges and universities. They represent us on provincial and federal levels. George Brown students who have my voice heard through the Student Association then have their concerns "forwarded" to the Canadian Federation of Students.

I would like to have more Casa Loma students have their concerns heard and addressed, and have more of us students making our campus and school the best place in our lives. Because the Student Association is for the students, and I'm running, I will hear from students what they want done. My team will work their needs through the needs assessment.

Through mutual respect of all members in the team and following our purposes goals. Respect of rank hierarchy/offices set by all the team members. Using a compassionate action to include all possible groups in the campus/college.

A day has twenty four hours, and my class schedule is pre-set for me, using about 6 hours a day. So with good priority setting, I will be able to allocate adequate time to my other obligations, and might even be able to do two things that are almost connected at the same time.

Mostly my interest is with the new-comers who usually have a culture shock while expected to perform well in school. My other one, just as important, is with the concerns of local student's being addressed so I can say my interest is with the student's interests.



**David Edwards**  
**VP ST. JAMES**

I was motivated to run for this position so I could stand up for student rights, ensure the answers are delivered to the students and make sure all students have an accessible post secondary education.

My experience that I feel are pertinent to this position are my presidency of my past post secondary schools Student Union. I have a firm knowledge of the student movement and I understand the needs of marginalized students.

To represent the needs of my fellow students I have to guarantee information sharing between all students for issues and events. Holding forums and ensure access to relevant information to all students who are interested or involved within a particular issue.

By ensuring that the word is out to everyone we can begin to build a strong school spirit. One that embraces, supports and includes each and every student. Make the students aware of what the Student Association does and how to access as much of the support network as each student needs.

George Brown's goal in the Canadian Federation of Students, Local 92 and to each and every student is to create and make certain that post-secondary education is safe, accessible, affordable, fun and enjoyable, quality post secondary education to ALL STUDENTS.

My three primary goals I elected are:  
\* To guarantee information sharing between the Student Association and the students.  
\* Putting more pressure on the government with the support of Canadian Federation of Students to FREEZE TUITION FEES.  
\* To ensure a safe, equitable, accessible environment at George Brown College.

Realizing the strengths and supporting team members challenges are important to achieving goals within such a diverse group, making sure the focus is on upholding the Student Association mission statement.

I realize that this is a very challenging and important job because I am accountable to YOU the students. By ensuring my time management skills are utilized, prioritize and make certain that support systems are in place.

My main focus this year on my campus will be:  
\* To hold the college accountable to the students during academic appeals, academic policies and college council.  
\* To make sure that the policies are conducive to learning.  
\* With support of the Canadian Federation of Students to FREEZE TUITION.

In order to create an environment that ALL STUDENTS are represented and celebrated. I will work in partnership with all groups and clubs. I will be available and strive to make myself known and approachable. I WILL BE THERE FOR YOU. Your concern is my concern; I want to work together to rectify ALL issues.



**Mark Tokayer**  
**VP ST. JAMES**

What always motivates me to join the organization of a school that I am attending is to be a part of the riding body. I want to be part of the changes and other decisions that dictate how I enjoy my time at school. Every student needs to be shown there is a thing known as fun while going to school, and it's up to the Student Association to prove that.

Elected members of:  
-Humber College - Humber Students Federation - School of Social Work Representative  
-St. Na's Brith Youth Organization - Youth Council Shalakh (Religious and Cultural programming)  
-Vaughan Secondary School - Music Council 5 year member-at-large

My fellow students have many ways to speak to the SA, but most are poorly advertised, which I hope to change. As well as listening to their concerns, not just hearing them. Getting students themselves involved in things that concern them is another way to represent the student body. Presenting those needs to the proper parties in proper time is another way.

Better advertising in more areas, not only SA boards, while working alongside the GBC staff to get students to pay attention to those announcements. Actually finding out what events the students want before planning them, and getting the students involved in the events to help increase general involvement.

To give all students, no matter who they are, a fair and equal chance at a good education, and a future in the fields of their choice.

1)-Hospitality building, with proposed addition for business students to become it's own campus, receiving all the responsibilities, and benefits forthcoming.  
2)-Maintaining current level of fees for students to help lower or at least maintain level of tuition.  
3)-More community support for St. James campus, in terms of recognition at local establishments, and possible frequent usage benefits.

First learn, then use each person's strengths to the maximum potential. If all else fails, do it all myself.

Very carefully, by trying to move closer to campus, to be more available to students, and not being afraid to ask for help when I need it.

GBC Paintball club (Ivory Talon), Huskies, Sigfried's.

Non-partisan representation. Treat a student as just that, as student. No titles, no stereotypes, etc.



**Lotoya Russell**  
**CAMPUS DIRECTOR-SJ**

The motivation for me to run for this position was because I know that many of the students feel that even if they voiced their opinion no action would be taken. Another reason is because I wanted to get the full college experience.

I have had numerous job and volunteer experiences relating to customer service, and I would treat each of you as though you were my customer and I would always keep in mind that if it weren't for the customer's I wouldn't be here.

Keeping myself available to students, approaching and asking them what they need. Not just listening to their needs but doing my best to ensure that as much is done that can be done.

First I would create awareness because people cannot become involved if they do not know what is going on around them. Then I would do my best to get everyone excited and talking about it throughout the whole school community.

I feel that George Brown's Goal is to represent each of us to the best of their ability and fight for what we the students are asking for and to better the standard of our education on a national level.

Three goals that I wish to accomplish are to help the student body see that they can make a difference by being an advocate for them, make this school an enjoyable experience for everyone and to create a welcoming atmosphere.

I plan to achieve these goals by encouraging input from others, both positive and negative. Then I would listen keenly to everyone, and treat each and every point with validity.

I feel that if I take care of my schoolwork as soon as it is given. Then my mind will be free to deal with other pertinent issues and I will be able to decide what is to be done.

My main areas of interest are current and social events, informing students through the ambassador program and being heard letting the College and the Student Association know where I stand on important issues.

I would take one step at a time and ask each group what they need because before we can become a single unit we must all be happy on an individual basis.



# Tell us a little bit about yourself



## Latoya Burrell

I am 19 years old and I am enrolled in the three-year accounting program. I went to a large high school in Massachussetts where I began to become active in my school community. I did this by helping with the third world food drive, volunteering at a nursing home, leading grade 10 religion retreats, becoming a Salesian Leader, and

taking an exchange student into my home (I loved every second of it!). To my surprise at my high school graduation ceremony I received a school spirit award. Now I am continuing my education here at George Brown. During my first semester here a few of my friends and I were searching for something within the college to do. We eventually found the Ambassador program. I

didn't hesitate to sign up. But when I saw the posters in the hallways for the Student Association elections I felt this would give me an opportunity to make a greater impact within the school by doing my best to maintain, and if possible raise the quality of our education. I also want to do my best to make sure that the rights of each and every student is respected and that all of their

problems are heard. Every one of us makes a difference, but strength is in numbers. Come together and give me. Let's make a positive difference at George Brown. So vote Latoya Burrell for Campus Director.

## Deron Dawson

Wuzzup? My name is Deron Dawson I am currently taking the Building Renovation Program here at Casa Loma. I enjoy climbing, dancing, playing sports, many arts, working out, listening to music, and reading. I am running for the position of Vice President of Casa Loma campus and I plan to tackle as

many of your concerns as possible, create more exciting activities, and plan many events during my term as VP.

As the First Year Representative of Casa Loma, I have heard too many complaints around the Board of Directors meetings and around the School. Some major concerns include the bookstore constantly being on

back order causing students to struggle with their studies, not enough classroom space, bad washroom odors, and poor cafeteria foods with high prices.

I enjoy my program, but apart from that I feel this school is extremely boring. The school needs more activities and events to keep the students entertained. I plan to

create activities and plan events to make this school feel like a second home for every student. Such activities include sports clinics, dance clinics, video games in the lounge, pub nights, and parties with music provided by professional DJ's.



## David Edwards

At my last post secondary education, I was the President of the Student Union. As with any institution there always seems to be a break down of communication between the ranks. I always ensured that the leaders had open communication by organizing workshops and team building exercises.

At my last post secondary institute, I put pressure on the administration to change college policies to make the College more accountable around policies that infringed on student rights. Any more than one class and a substitute class had to be held to accommodate all affected students. I started many initiatives with other groups

and organizations to bring more services and activities to the student body. I organized numerous popular events that made my school more enjoyable.

I initiated countless ventures that would allow students to access services that were outside the college community.

Ask yourself this question. Who advocates

for the person who does not know their rights? I have asked my self this question repeatedly. There never seems to be a perfect answer. But I will try to make DAVID EDWARDS the answer. My goal is to make an impact to the student life at George Brown College.

## Dwayne Hines

My name is Dwayne Hines - I am a full-time student in the second year of the three-year Business Management program. I am the Student Rep on the Board of Governors, and President of the largest Chartered Organization in the college, MOSAIC (STUDENTS PROMOTING

DIVERSITY AND COMBATING RACISM). I am also an International Student Journalist, and came to Canada to learn about its culture, people, and economy. I was surprised how diverse Canada is. In Jamaica, there are many different cultures and people from different ethnicity but here in Canada, it is the whole world in one big melting pot. I grew up in the ghettos of Jamaica where

opportunity comes only once to those who go hunting for it. I never dream I would ever be where I am now presently. I was hard, stubborn, rude and ill mannered. The only person I listened to was my self. I grew up believing that there was no hope for me out there in society. The only hope was from watching gangster movies and hanging around hard core thugs and to take what you want

from life and then ask questions later. My mother at that time was a street vendor and my father was working in a packing plant at Grace, so there was not much help and income coming in for me and my 8 brothers and sisters at that time. I always asked my father "why are we in the position that we in" and he always told me "That's the way life is, we just have to accept it."



## Tim Johnson

My name is Tim Johnson, and I want to be your Student Association President! I am going enroll in one-year web design courses next year, and I will have successfully graduated from my Food & Beverage

Management program. I was 2001 2002 Student Association Campus Vice President for St. James, and worked for the SA the year before that at Subway and in the Lounge. Last year was a good year for me to get to know the 'ins and outs' of the college,

and the Student Association, but next year is when I feel I can make the BIG changes I feel are necessary. I am a hard worker who takes my job very seriously, but I also make sure that those around me work to the best of their ability. The SA has the power to

and ability to make big changes, as long as we work hard and stay focused. I plan to make sure that happens next year as your Student Association President!

## Chris McNeil

I'm Chris McNeil, I'm a passionate, committed 1st year Community Worker student. I want to be VP of Education because I care deeply about people, I can't rest while I see how hard it is for low-income students and those with families. I

have a lot to give. I have many ideas and solid leadership abilities and great interpersonal skills. I understand the diversity of students and their needs. My different experiences have made me a well-rounded person. I volunteered at an orphanage in Mexico for a year. I volunteered as an ESL tutor at Frontier

College. For three years I worked as a Personal Support Worker for clients with special needs. I work part time for the S.A. as a caretaker and at Life Works. I am currently doing my Field Placement at the Open Door Centre, which is a homeless drop in shelter. Also I'm the proud father of a 1-month-old baby girl. I believe in the

dream that we can create a better world, with affordable education, and where we celebrate each other's diversity. I believe we the Students of George Brown can make this happen here and we can set an example for people everywhere.



## Lungile Ncube

Born in a family of five, I'm Lungile Ncube born and mostly schooled in Zimbabwe, where I completed my University of Cambridge GCSE Advanced Level at Gifford High school in Bulawayo. There I was a member of different school organisations such as junior Tennis team, committee

member of the Sixth Form Forum, the Culture club of which I was part of the founding committee members. I was also part of the Hotel Entertainment committee which was solely responsible for organising events such as the Hostel annually dance, and weekend entertainment to but name a few. I then worked/ trained with several

companies one of which was the then sole telecommunication provider the Post and Telecommunication Corporation (PTC) which beside the technical training also trained us in leadership and group management as that would have been part of our job once qualified as their technicians. Though I did not complete my training with the PTC as I had

qualified for a scholarship at Concordia College Seima, AI. There I was also a member of International Students Association which was mostly a cultural bridge and whose objectives were similar to the cultural club I had helped found in high school.

## Jansen Ng

Jansen Ng worked as an independent Investment Consultant for two years on several multi-million dollar portfolios before coming to George Brown College. He has worked as an IT Project Supervisor, as well as on the TD-Canada Trust Integration Project. After graduation, Jansen intends to continue in a

## MBA program.

Since coming to GBC Jansen has served as First Year Representative for St. James on the Student Association Board of Directors. He was appointed as Commissioner, Special Projects by the Board because of his IT, project management, and leadership experience. He has furthered his knowledge of

the school by attending meetings of the Board of Governors, Board of Directors, and College Council.

His knowledge and experience would be very useful in administering the Student Association's \$2 million annual budget as well as the \$5 million Casa Loma Student Center Project currently under construction. He has

listened to students' needs and has moved for changes such as a cheaper cash machine at St. James and the new food service providers.

Keeping students informed is extremely important and Jansen has written many articles in the Dialog to do that. He also wants to create an SA website with information on Board meetings, clubs, and sport teams.



## Eun-ah Maria Park

Hello fellow GBC students! I want to be your Vice President of Nightingale and Ryerson. Yes, we are a smaller community at Nightingale, but we certainly have a VOICE to share with all GBC students. Having spoken with many of you, I know there is a lot of excitement about our new campus, and

I am aware that a new environment will bring new challenges. I hope that the transition will be successful and that we will have a strong voice to share with our partners at Ryerson. As your Vice President, I will promote Student Association events and services in both Nightingale and Ryerson campuses. In 2002-2003, I will commit my

time and effort to offer you an incredible year full of events and new initiatives. I will be available to listen to your needs and ideas. Many of you are interested in establishing a Student Services and Health Services Student Association, and I will work toward that goal. I plan to organize a Multicultural week to highlight the multitude

of talents and cultures of our student community. If you would like to see these goals realized, come out and vote between Thursday, March 14th to Wednesday, March 20th. See you there!

## Mark Tokayer

Having been involved in many youth/student led organizations, I have always felt it was the only way to get my views across and my opinions heard, and I wanted to help those running the show. I always had strong feelings

about getting students involved, and I felt a student run and elected government should not only be for a student's convenience, but for student's enjoyment and making sure they get the most out of their time at George Brown College. I feel that I can bring to every student at GBC an

experience that will make them forever remember their time at the school, especially the time spent at the college while not in classes. I will always have an open ear, and open door policy so that a student wants to talk about. All I ask is that you also listen to my help, and not just use me as an ear to

hear what went wrong that day. I hope that I can completely represent all students at St. James Campus and make the next years of your attendance at George Brown College as memorable as they possibly can.



## Elishah Ward

Hi, my name is Elishah, I am in my first year of Assaulted Women and Children Counselor Advocate program. In the last five months, I have become very involved with the Student Association (SA). As the

first year representative of Nightingale and now as well as, a Commissioner at Large. As the first year representative, I attended board meeting, bring the voice of the first year students of Nightingale, attended events and work at getting more

for the Nightingale students. As Commissioner at Large, I am working with the Student Association and the college, with the changes that are happening, with Nightingale starting the fall 2003. We are busy organizing forums and making sure

the students involved have adequate support. Wednesday to Friday, I can be found in the S.A. office at Nightingale on my lunch, so stop by and don't forget that ever vote counts. So get out there! Voting starts March 14th and ends March 20th.



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**SUN**  
SUMMER SESSION 2002

By Joseph Farrugio

Recently, I had the pleasure of speaking with a man, a straight man, that mentioned to me that he will "fix me." Of course I replied, "oh no, it will be me who will be fixing you." As if I, a gay male, am broken and in need of fixing. Maybe my plumbing could have some working on considering it has been a long time since a good man has entered my life but that is another story all together.

Let's get something straight (pardon the pun of course) people, referring to those who insist on living inside some 1940s bubble, but being gay does not mean that we are broken, crooked or lacking some good sense.

So, here is a little 411 on gay life, well my life for that matter.

There is no difference in the way a gay person may run his or her life in comparison to a straight person's agenda. Both get up in the morning and go to bed at night. Both require food for energy and water to live. In short, gay persons and straight persons are exactly the same except for companionship.

Now, many gay people have straight people for friends. Personally, I have more straight friends than gay friends simply because I live in a predominate straight community; consequently, many straight people have gay friends as well. Believe it or not but the two lifestyles can live extremely well together over long meaningful conversations or partying late during the weekends, and of course, during the week as well. Don't threaten people, there is NO SEX going on here, just friendships. A gay person cannot make a straight person gay just as much as a straight person

can make a gay person straight. WHY?? That is the way the persons are and that's it.

Still confused? Okay, I will simplify it. If you are a white person who has black friends, does your skin colour change? Answer: NO! Or if you are a black person with white friends, does your skin colour change? Answer: NO! What can and will happen is an appreciation and understanding of both sides of the fence.

No person can change what you are, but he or she may change the way you think and understand issues and people a little better. Being gay is not a state of mind. Being gay is what the person is. Similarly, being straight is not a state of mind but who one is. Instead of wanting and needing intimate companionship with the opposite sex, homosexuality is being able to look into the eyes of the same sex, fall in love, and understand that person's soul better than with someone from the opposite sex.

On a final personal note. I recently met and began a friendship with a straight male. During the course of our recent social interactions with one another he mentioned to me that he enjoyed hanging out and partying with me more than his other straight male friends. Even though we both don't see eye to eye on the issue of sex, we both had a lot more in common together, and had good times chatting and partying all night long.

So, just take it easy and relax people, we're just human after all.

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## Husky Cup

By Scott Blakely

In full force now, teams are starting to prepare for the playoffs. In a preview of the expected finals, the Shooters battled the Devils last week. Riding the shoulders of all-

**"The only team that can beat us is ourselves"**

star goaltender Justin Skrinjar, the Shooters upset the powerhouse Devils. An 11-1 dismantling was the final. The Shooters got to Devils goaltender Dave Dyer early and often, as

the Shooters took a 7-0 lead into the intermission. The second half proved no better for the Devils, as the Shooters continued to control the flow of the game. Feeling as confident as can be, captain Victor Bhanot believes they will not lose this tournament. "The only team that can beat us is ourselves", explained Bhanot.

Another team that is coming on strong is the Loungers. Led by captain Lucas Kowalski, this team takes a 3-2 record into the postseason. After a slow start, the Loungers have rattled off three straight victories.

Who will host Lord Husky will be known Friday February 22nd, as the Husky Cup Final takes place then. Fans are encouraged to come out and see this spectacular show. The first 50 fans will receive complimentary game day programs. So come on out, YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

## Sale and Pelletier Have Their Moment in the Sun



By Tony Cammalleri

It's finally over. After one week of controversy, Canadian figure skaters Jamie Sale and David Pelletier were awarded gold medals in a ceremony following the Ice Dance completion. This Olympic fiasco ranks among the top in history. Russian skaters Yelena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze were awarded Gold medals, when it was clear that the Canadian skaters performance was good enough for first. The Russian pair skated a great routine, but stumbled on one occasion. Pelletier and Sale seized the opportunity, and skated a flawless routine. Pelletier and Sale were disappointed with the Silver, but were graciously accepting of it.

The controversy didn't die, and heightened when it was revealed that the French judge, Marie-Reine Le Gougeon was pressured to side with the Russians. After further investigation, International Skating Union (ISU) president, Ottavio Cinquanta recommended that Sale

and Pelletier be awarded a second Gold Medal.

International Olympic Committee president Jacques Rogge agreed with the ISU's recommendation and made it official on Friday, February 15, 2002. Many analysts suggested the Russian pair should be stripped of the Gold medal and given the Silver. However, this would have been the wrong decision. Both Yelena Berezhnaya and Anton Sikharulidze were not at fault for what happened. They acted in a dignified manner and were truly a class act. Stripping them of the Gold medal would have reprimanded the wrong people.

Hopefully, this latest skating controversy will change the way the sport is judged – if you can call figure skating a sport. This skating blunder is not the first and it definitely won't be the last. The integrity of the sport has been questionable for years and this incident may have broken the camel's back.

## RELAX, Meditate

Okay, reading week is finally here. Now that the stresses of school have stopped (for now), take this opportunity to find some time to relax, calm your senses, and enjoy the sounds of silence—all in just 10 to 15 minutes a day.

Here are some tips for meditation. (Use them. There are too many nervous people at this school.)

— Try meditating before your day begins and after your day ends. (or whenever you just can't take it anymore.)

— Set aside a spot for meditation, a quiet, special spot, somewhere where you feel comfortable.

— If you plan on sitting, make sure you sit with your spine straight and vertical. (Feel free to lay down or sit in a chair, whatever floats your boat.)

— Find a focal point and concentrate (ex. Your breathing, or the sound of your heart beating).

— Most of all, RELAX, enjoy yourself, and feel free to "OM" if the spirit moves you.

Meditation is easy, and a quick way to relieve some of the day's stresses. There is no right or wrong way to meditate. Certain techniques work better for different people. The important thing is to find a technique that works for you. There is no reason why you shouldn't meditate everyday. It only takes 10 to 15 minutes so there are no excuses.

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each

### Super Value Menu

- Jr. Bacon Cheeseburger
- Jr. Cheeseburger Deluxe
- Biggie® Fries
- Biggie® Drink
- Baked Potato with Sour Cream & Chives
- Medium Frosty
- Small Chili
- Chili and Cheese Nachos

All day.  
Everyday.



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## Sisterfest 2002 at George Brown College



By Nancy Lim

On Thursday, March 7, Sisterfest 2002 will be held from 9 am to midnight in the Student Lounge of the St. James Campus. This event coincides with International Women's Day, a day to recognize the progress, achievements, and future for all women.

Organized by the Lifeworks Centre, this festival celebrates the positive action of women in today's society. There will be various activities throughout the day, such as poetry sessions, relaxing massages, and seminars hosted by prominent females in our community.

Personal Self-Care and Human Rights are just a few of the interesting and informative topics that will be discussed.

Several guest appearances will also be made. DJs from Toronto plan to attend, as well as Kim Doolittle, Salome Bey and Thea Gill. Doolittle, originally from Nova

Scotia, is a well-known country singer. Her first album "Something Old, New, Borrowed & Blue," produced by Reba Records, landed her an independent recording deal in the United Kingdom. Her next album "Better Off Blue" sold over 20,000 copies in the UK, and five singles made the charts in both Europe and Canada.

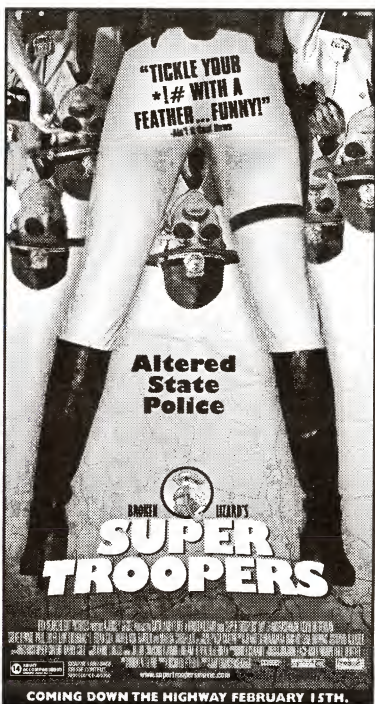
**"this festival celebrates the positive action of women"**

Bey is a Canadian jazz, gospel and R&B singer, as well as a writer and actress. Born in Newark, New Jersey in 1944, she moved to Toronto in 1964. She began her career singing with her siblings, and she currently performs with her two daughters, Jacintha Tuku and Saidah Baba Talibah. She also wrote the critically acclaimed productions *Madam*

*Gertrude and Indigo*. Her long and prestigious career has led to several accolades, such as the Dora Mavor award for *Indigo*, a 1990 Grammy Award and a 1991 Toronto Arts Award.

Gill is better known for her role as Lindsay Peterson on Showtime's *Queer As Folk*. Born in Vancouver, British Columbia, Gill studied Theatre Performance at York University in Toronto. Some of her other television credits include roles in *Due South*, *Royal Canadian Air Force*, and *Traders*. She has also appeared in various films such as Showtime's *Heartland Ghost* and *Common Ground*, *Life With Judy Garland: Me and My Shadows* and *Washed Up, Lily*. Let Me Call You Sweetheart, and *Awake*.

Women sketch artists or men in drag are also needed for Sisterfest 2002. This is an excellent opportunity to promote your artistic talents. For more information, please contact the Lifeworks centre at 416-415-2846.



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If you have a post-secondary diploma in one of the 15 professional trades listed below, you may be eligible for a recruitment allowance of \$10,000, or \$20,000 if you already have experience. Graduates also receive higher seniority than untrained recruits and better pay.

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# George Brown College Celebrates



## Black History Month

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